



Pasta Jewellery

Who needs gold, silver or jewels when you can find many things to make fun and colourful jewellery in your kitchen cupboards?

With a mixture of pasta shapes, for example, you can make lots of pretty necklaces, bracelets and earrings.



Equipment

1. A variety of Pasta shapes - for example bows, shells and macaroni tubes.
2. Some coloured string or elastic.
3. A selection of earring and brooch fittings (you can buy these quite cheaply from a local craft shop or large department store).
4. Some hair elastics.
5. Some waterproof felt-tip pens or paints, in a variety of colours.
6. Some paper glue (such as Copydex).

Safety Stuff

Working with items such as scissors can be dangerous, so be very careful when you use them. Make sure that you never leave them open or lying around where smaller children can reach them.

Keep small items such as beads, shells and buttons away from babies and young children as they can easily be swallowed. Before starting to make the jewellery, cover the work surface with some newspaper or an old cloth, and make sure you're wearing an apron or some old clothes. Gather together all the items you'll need before you begin. Most of the items can probably be found by hunting around the house, but remember to check with an adult before you take anything!

When you have finished, don't forget to tidy everything away. Wash any paint brushes you have used (otherwise you'll regret it next time you try to use them!) and remember to put the tops back on pens, paint and glue pots. It's a good idea to keep special pens, glue, scissors and other equipment together in an old box or container, so you'll be able to find them easily next time!

Steps

Step One

First use the felt-tip pens or paints to decorate the pasta shapes. Experiment with different colours and designs, for example spots or stripes, to make your own patterns.

Different pasta shapes can be decorated in different ways.

When the pasta is dry, use the different shapes to make lots of pieces of jewellery.

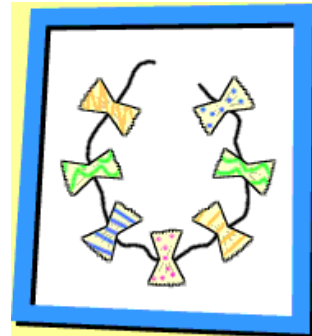


Step Two

To make a necklace, measure around your neck and cut a length of coloured string or elastic to fit. If you are using macaroni tubes, thread them onto the string one at a time.

Can you think of other ways to attach the pasta to the string?

When you have attached all the pasta shapes, tie the two ends of the string together.



Bracelet

To make a bracelet, measure around your wrist and cut an appropriate length of string or elastic.

Tie or thread the pasta shapes onto the string, in the same way as before.

Knot the two ends of the string together - and your bracelet is ready to wear!



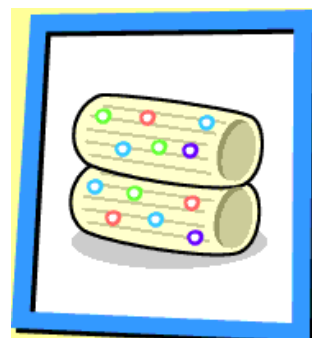
Brooch

To make a brooch, carefully glue two pasta tubes together.

Then glue the brooch fitting onto the back of the pasta tubes.

Allow the glue to dry completely before you wear the brooch.

Can you think of other objects that could be used to make a brooch? You could mix pasta shapes with paper beads, for example.



Earrings

To make a pair of earrings, tie a small piece of elastic around the centre of the pasta bow. Knot it at the back and cut off any loose ends.

Pass the earring wire underneath the elastic at the back of the pasta bow.

Repeat this for a second bow and you will have a delightful pair of unique decorated pasta-shape earrings.



Hairbands

To make a pair of hair bands, glue two pasta bows back to back. Repeat this for a second pair. Then tie each pair of bows onto a hair elastic.

Use your new hair bands when you next tie up your hair!

You don't have to use just pasta to make hair bands. There are many other objects to use, such as coloured paper beads.



Other Objects

You've now made a selection of really attractive jewellery using your decorated pasta shapes.

What other items from your kitchen cupboards could you use to make jewellery? There are lots of pips and seeds that will thread easily, so why not experiment with different things and make a really smart piece of jewellery. Remember to ask an adult before you take anything though!

Think about all the different materials you have found and which ones are best for making jewellery. How does the jewellery you have made make you feel when you wear it? Smart, older, or like an actor or film star?